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For information on how your flyer can be inserted each week in County Life please contact Melissa Armstrong at **613-332-2002** or **melissa@haliburtonpress.com**

Facts about February

Despite being the shortest month of the calendar year, February has an interesting history. Early calendars marked the start of the new year in March, but when the second king of Rome, Numa Pompilius, rose to the throne in 713 BC, he synchronized the calendar to the lunar year. That required the addition of January and February.

February was named after an end-of-year celebration called "Februa," also known as "Februalia" or "Februatio." Februa was a Roman festival of ritual purification and washing – a spring cleaning of sorts. This festival was later incorporated into Lupercalia, another Roman celebration that has ties to Groundhog Day. January was actually added after February and was named after Janus, the Roman god of beginnings and endings.

- Both January and February originally had 28 days. However, at the time, even numbers were considered to bring bad luck, so Pompilius added another day to January. However, February was left with 28 days and had long been considered an unlucky month.
- February was the last month of the year for around 200 years, until the Gregorian calendar designated January the start of the new year.
- Julius Caesar is responsible for adjusting the calendar and the length of February's length. In the Julian calendar, 10 days were added to the calendar year in various months, and February was increased every four years (leap year) to 29 days to co-ordinate the calendar year to the solar cycle of roughly 365.2425 days.
- During common years, February can pass by without a single full moon.
- British mathematician John Conway determined that some dates inevitably share the same weekday within any given year. The last day of February will be on the same weekday as March 7, April 4, May 9, June 6, July 11, Aug. 8, Sept. 5, Oct. 10, Nov. 7, and Dec. 12.
- In the northern hemisphere, February is the equivalent to the third month of winter. In the southern hemisphere, it is the third month of summer.
- In Finnish, February is called "helmikuu," meaning "month of the pearl," which refers to the snow melting on tree branches.
- During leap years, February will end on the same day that it begins.
- February's birthstone is the amethyst, which symbolizes piety, sincerity and spiritual wisdom.
- Residents of St. Lucia celebrate their independence on Feb. 22.
- Despite being the shortest month of the year, February is packed with events. In addition to Valentine's Day, Groundhog Day, World Marriage Day, and Presidents' Day, February is when Flag Day is celebrated in both Canada and Mexico. February also serves as Black History Month.

County Life

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Making and trying

Bessie's Books and Other Things

Bessie Sullivan
Library CEO

The Haliburton County Public Library held a "Try it Fair" at the beginning of December. This is something that bigger library systems have undertaken successfully but we weren't sure that we could do it. We ended up attracting 27 skills and activities demonstrators and over 250 people attended in a four hour period.

Try it Fairs, or Try it in Ten, or How to, or Skill Share Fairs are becoming popular for libraries to host as they are a way to encourage people to be curious and playful. Attendees can try or can make something that they may never have tried or made before. These kinds of fairs are a result of our current learning climate. Partially attributable to the rapid pace that technology is evolving, formal in-classroom learning is no longer keeping up with the pace of change. People have to be willing to explore on their own and engage in self-guided learning in order to stay current in our ever-changing world. Libraries have always been interested in lifelong learning and human inquisitiveness. Libraries organizing Try it Fairs is an expansion of this interest in the physical sense.

We held ours in the High School Gymnasium, for the first two hours we limited it to high school students only, and then for the next two we opened it up to the public. We offered anything from trying a 3D printer and horseback riding on simulated horses to hemming pants using an industrial sewing machine and making a button.

We are still analyzing the feedback but overwhelmingly it appears that we need to do it again. Try it Fairs are part of the "Maker Movement" which is loosely defined as, "a resurgence of the desire to create physical objects; it can manifest itself as a technology-based extension of DIY and revels in the creation of new devices as well as tinkering with existing ones. There is a strong focus on using and learning practical skills and applying them to designs."

To learn more about this topic we have several books at the library that will get you started with your own maker projects and tell you more about the movement itself:

Free to make: how the maker movement is changing our schools, our jobs, and our minds by Dale Dougherty with Ariane Conrad.

Maker lab: 28 super cool projects: build, invent, create, discover by Jack Challoner

The big book of maker skills: tools & techniques for building great tech projects by Chris Hackett and the editors of *Popular Science.*

I find the maker concept exciting because it allows for trial and error. I think for many of us of a certain age, making mistakes is uncomfortable. Speaking for myself, I was always worried about wasting materials, wasting time, or simply looking stupid. Permission to explore and experiment without worry of failure is a completely new way of thinking for some. We really do plan on holding another Try it Fair. If you didn't get a chance to come in December, watch for the next one, where you too can come and be inquisitive.

Homemade Stew highlights depth of talent
David Piercey, centre, and Highlands Trio featuring Jeff Moulton, right, and Mike Clewlow entertain with song and laughs at the annual Homemade Stew concert on Jan. 28. ANGELICA INGRAM Staff

Fleming College sets new records for winter enrolment

Fleming College has kicked off 2017 with record winter enrolment.

Overall, first-semester intake was 1,238 students, the highest in the college's 50-year history. The previous record high for winter start-up was 1,081 students in 2013. Winter enrolment for all students, both new and returning, is up three per cent over 2016.

Fleming also welcomed a record number of international students to its campuses. More than 460 new international students – including 135 students at Frost Campus in Lindsay – started at the college this January, an increase of 130 per cent over January 2016. This increases the total number of international students by 70 per cent to 874, with students attending from more than 25 different countries.

"We are absolutely pleased to welcome all of our new students to Fleming College. Our campus communities are thriving, diverse and collaborative – key aspects of an inspiring learning environment," said Fleming College president Tony Tilly. "I extend my thanks to our faculty and staff for their contributions in achieving this milestone. As we move forward, we will continue to strive to offer the right blend of both unique and foundational programs, alongside a strong network of student supports and services."

The college experienced growth across a broad spectrum of programs – most of Fleming's academic schools saw a surge in new students.

More than half of Fleming's 100-plus full-time programs offer a January start. Students can study through the summer and start third semester with the fall cohort. This intake ensures a flexible option for students of all ages.

For students interested in starting at Fleming this fall, the deadline for equal consideration is approaching. Prospective students are encouraged to apply by Feb. 1 to secure a seat in the program of their choice for fall 2017.

Submitted

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Valentine's Day mistakes you need to avoid

Living Large

Humour by Steve Galea

Valentine's Day is rapidly approaching and there's not much we can do about it either. The only consolation is that it only lasts one day.

That means you only need to spend 16 waking hours avoiding trouble – even less if you are good at faking narcolepsy.

If not, here are 10 Valentine's Day mistakes to avoid.

1. If you're going to give an IOU card for a romantic gift, make it for back and foot rubs. Very few people appreciate a note that says "This card entitles you to one flatulence-free day."
2. Sending flowers is fine. Just make sure you've removed the old sympathy card first.
3. If you are going to take her out to a romantic candlelight dinner, dress up – even if it means you're going to be a little cold in the fish hut.
4. Remember, most women love romantic poems – it's the word Nantucket they hate.
5. Remember, it's got to be a full box of chocolates.
6. If you plan to propose in the middle of a crowded restaurant, make sure you don't propose separate vacations.
7. Don't surprise your partner at the door wearing nothing but a smile. If he or she doesn't let you in right away, the neighbours might call the cops
8. Don't purchase any Valentine's Day card that features an old train and talks about an old worn out caboose.
9. If you have fancy Valentine's dinner reservations, be sure to take your partner along too.
10. Never refer to the day solely by its initials. If you say, "I've got to go out and buy something for V.D." it rarely goes well.

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Partnership benefits HSAD students

New Fleming College pathway to a degree: bachelor of craft and design at Sheridan College

Fleming College and Sheridan College have signed a new agreement that provides a pathway from a Fleming diploma to the honours bachelor of craft and design degree at Sheridan.

The agreement applies to eligible graduates of Fleming's visual and creative arts diploma program who have specialized in fibre arts, glassblowing or ceramics. Fleming graduates can enter directly into the second year of the four-year degree. These students will be further exempt from select courses within the degree program.

"A partnership with Sheridan College provides Fleming College graduates with an opportunity to seamlessly continue developing their studio practice while earning an honours bachelor of craft and design. Further, this pathway is an acknowledgment of the degree ready skills that our students develop during their studies at Haliburton School of Art and Design," said Sandra Dupret, dean of the Haliburton School of Art and Design and principal of the Haliburton campus.

The Visual and Creative Arts Diploma, part of the Haliburton School of Art and Design, covers fundamental art and design principles and builds critical skills such as design, drawing and media applications. This is paired with the intensive studio courses in a specific medium.

Submitted

Avoid chimney damage from snow and ice

If you have a steep steel roof that has a chimney, with or without braces located more than three feet off the peak or lower there is a 50/50 chance if located in Haliburton County it will need everything above the roofline replaced late winter/early spring. I say 50/50 because depending on the topography, location next to water, predominate direction of snowfall towards the chimney side of the roof, etc., the snow may or may not hang on the roof and transform into an iceberg as it melts. I feel for people that go through this, but the only thing worse than having this happen to you is having it happen year after year or every second or third year.

We try a lot harder than most companies to avoid this by adding snow splitters, changing the direction of roof braces to discourage build up, etc., but beyond building a heavy-duty dormer above the chimney or moving the chimney to a new location there actually is a solution here: a different attitude towards your home or cottage. Invest in a person or company that you trust to monitor and remove the snow as required. If a build up of one foot of snow is raked off a roof around a chimney before it has hardened up it will not cause a problem. You may even be saving a deck or railing below.

I am sure that a lot of homeowners are just lucky with the prevailing wind direction, angle of roof, etc., but there are those exceptional years. We have a 16/12 pitch on our showroom steel roof. Most years it will not get more than five to six inches of snow before sliding off. But one year it piled up two feet. It was not easy to remove because I let it harden up too long. The snow splitter was crushed, but it did save the chimney! (I know this is not exciting stuff, but bear with me.)

If you procrastinate about it and there is a large build up you can still save it if a professional controls the mass by chipping away with a roof rake. It is important to do this before it gets too warm so it is still stuck tight to the roof. This should be done by a professional.

Snow removal is a service that we do not provide. We deal with assessing and repairing chimneys that are affected.

At this time I would like to remind homeowners that when they are away from their properties for some time, arriving up at the cottage on Friday night for example, please take a minute and look at the chimney to make sure it all looks good before stoking the fire.

– Submitted by Ian Myers
Myers Chimney

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Ice racing returns to Minden fairgrounds
A new season of ice racing got underway at the Minden fairgrounds on Jan. 28 and 29. Races, hosted by the Minden Kin Club, will continue on Saturdays and Sundays for the next four weekends. There is no admission fee for spectators. CHAD INGRAM Staff

A rainbow arching across the Gull River leads to the inaugural Pride Picnic hosted by the Wild Swan B&B last summer. More than 50 people – members of the LGBT community and their supporters – participated in the event. ANGELA LONG Staff

Minden Pride party to grow this year

By Chad Ingram

Building on the success of last year's Pride Picnic, a group of Mindenites are planning an even bigger party for this summer.

While last year's picnic was held on July 2 and attracted about 50 people to the lawn at the Wild Swan B&B, this year's celebration of the LGBTQ community, which will be called Minden Pride and take place in August, is poised to be much larger in scope and encapsulate more of the downtown.

Members of the organizing committee paid a visit to Minden Hills councillors during their Jan. 25 meeting.

"I'm a proud Mindenite, I'm a proud gay person, I'm a proud Christian and I think that builds into being a proud citizen of Canada," organizing committee member and downtown business owner Sinclair Russell told councillors. "We're not only trying to celebrate, we're trying to educate and build community spirit."

The group is organizing a series events between Aug. 21 and 27 that will be part of Minden Pride. A number of local businesses, churches and other organizations are already on board.

Musical entertainment, a tea dance, a church service and a river float parade are just some of the events the committee is planning.

"We are not asking you guys for any money, we are just asking for your support," Russell told councillors.

From the township, the committee is looking for the rainbow flag to again be raised outside the Minden Hills office (it flew outside the Milne Street building for the first time last year), use of township property, assistance from the community services department, access to Rotary Park, a possible partial road closure and an online listing of Pride Minden events.

"We want to do lots of water activities, maybe even games," Russell said, adding the committee would also like to transform the Loggers' Crossing foot bridge into a giant rainbow for the occasion.

"Come and join us, wave your flag and show your pride."

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If you are interested in working in our most beautiful and active community, then apply in confidence **by 4:00 pm on Monday, February 20, 2017** to:
Peter E. Oyler, Chair of the HHHS Foundation,
via email at poyler@hhhs.ca

For further information on the HHHS Foundation, please refer to:
www.hhhs.ca/foundation

Five reasons to get excited about local tourism

As the energy and possibility that comes with a New Year reaches a high this month, the Ontario's Highlands Tourism Organization (OHTO) is predicting an exciting year for tourism in the rural communities located between Haliburton Highlands and the Ottawa Valley.

"With a successful 2016 behind us, and a budding enthusiasm for attracting new visitors to our wonderful neighbourhoods in bolder and more targeted ways in 2017, we are bracing ourselves for an influential year ahead," says Nicole Whiting, OHTO's executive director. "2017 has the potential to re-define the tourism industry in our region, and we are confident that it will also provide our locals with an invigorated sense of pride in the places they call home."

Live in Ontario's Highlands? Here are five reasons to get excited about local tourism in 2017:

1) The Year of The Wanderer

The New Year begins with an unprecedented "win" for the communities in Ontario's Highlands: a powerful, region-wide brand message that has been developed and tested, and which gives the region an identity that can be shared and celebrated. The regional brand of Come Wander was introduced to tourism stakeholders in the Spring of 2016, and an official consumer launch is scheduled for Spring 2017.

The brand positions Ontario's Highlands as an ideal place to embrace the ideology of wandering, in both mind and body, embracing unexpected moments and allowing each new discovery to stimulate the senses and nourish the soul. It was chosen for its ability to resonate with city-dwellers looking to escape the everyday and slow the pace in an intriguing new location. "It's not just a shift in strategy. It's a shift in mindset," says Whiting. "For both locals and visitors, Come Wander encourages a new way of thinking about our region as a vibrant, mysterious place that is best explored with an openness to wander, and a thirst for trying something for the first time." The launch will incorporate an innovative campaign and a new tourism website.

2) A Strong Tourism Economy

According the latest statistics from the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, tourism continues to be "big business" in Ontario's Highlands, contributing to jobs and revenues that promote vitality and foster growth. In 2014, 4.8 million people visited the region, spending a total of $529 million, an increase of $11 million from the previous year. Even more encouraging? The number of tourism-related businesses increased by nearly 42 percent from 2013, with the tourism sector employing 4,600 people in over 20,000 different businesses, including hotels, resorts, restaurants, festivals, museums and more.

3) Small Towns, Big Stories

Over the last year, several tourism operators in Ontario's Highlands have been recognized on a provincial and national level for their valuable contributions to the larger tourism community, receiving nominations for prestigious awards from some of the biggest voices of tourism in Canada. These include two separate titles for Tourism Champion of the Year (Attractions Ontario and Tourism Industry Association of Ontario), the Colonel Don Dailley Lifetime Achievement Award (Attractions Ontario), Best Cultural Ambassador (Aboriginal Tourism Association of Canada) and a nomination for the Brewster Travel Canada Adventure/Outdoors Award (Tourism Industry Association of Canada).

"This recognition is huge for our region," says Whiting, "because it builds credibility and piques curiosity for a region that truly is a hidden gem in Ontario. We are quickly earning a reputation for not just the quality of our tourism experiences, but for the passion of our operators, and the lasting impressions that their stories inspire with guests. We are leaders in tourism – and it is great to see our operators being recognized for their amazing accomplishments."

Ontario's Highlands has also generated buzz with national media, with stories about our region appearing in outlets such as Expedia, National Geographic, Mercedes-benz Magazine, The Ottawa Citizen and on many travel blogs. As for 2017, Whiting says that locals can expect to see an increased number of media "influencers" wandering through their towns, eager to share their unrehearsed moments in both traditional and digital outlets.

4) An Industry that Works Together

"The tourism industry in Ontario's Highlands has been shifting towards a more collaborative approach, and 2017 will see additional opportunities for our operators to partner, versus compete, with one another," says Whiting. On the horizon is the development of a regional maple culinary tour involving five area businesses, as well as talks of industry-led FAM tours, which allow businesses to open doors to their regional tourism colleagues with hopes of better understanding each other's product, service and experience offered. "It is inspiring to see what our operators can accomplish by working together to create one-of-a-kind experiences that speak to our visitors and invite them to wander through the region as a destination, rather than a single attraction or stop."

In spring 2017, the OHTO plans to offer its third IGNITE program that brings together influential business owners, as well as community organizations and partners, for an immersive three-day training session on experience development. The program is focused on building a stronger understanding of what it means to put the visitor first, as well as developing bonds with fellow "ignitees" that will translate into an increased ability to partner with each other and compete in a larger market. The 2016 IGNITE program, hosted in the Ottawa Valley, was met with high demand from the industry.

5) New Experiences and Events

From bow pose to boats, 2017 will see a variety of new tourism experiences across the region, re-invigorating the visitor experience and giving locals an opportunity to wander their backyards in a whole new way. In the spring, Le Boat, Europe's largest self-drive boating company will begin bookings on the historic Rideau Canal and a walking food tour (The Good Food Tour) will kick off in Almonte. As for Festival Season? Ontario's Highlands will be home to two new summer events that are sure to become a yearly tradition: Emerge Festival, a celebration of conscious living including a line-up of world-renowned yoga and meditation instructors, as well as workshops and glamping; and the Pick N' Ride bluegrass festival organized by Horse Country Campground – think of it as the Calgary Stampede of the Ottawa Valley.

"We look forward to a trail-blazing year filled with new tourism successes, and many new reasons to wander," says Whiting.

Submitted

Haliburton's Frost Festival
Saturday February 18 2017
www.dysartetal.ca/haliburton-frost-festival/
Bring your family and friends to enjoy a full day of outdoor fun, recreation and food at Head Lake Park in Haliburton Village!
Polar Bear Dip • Dogsledding • Broomball • Pancake Breakfast in the Park
Games • Wagon Rides • Snowshoeing • Skating • Ice Fishing • BBQ Lunch
Curling • Pony Rides • Lasagna Dinner • And so much more!
Participate in the weekly walking group.
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Take part in a guided snowshoe walk on Thursdays at 10am.
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For Recreation Programs/Opportunities and Community Events, visit www.dysartetal.ca or follow us on Facebook/dysartrecreation or Twitter @Dysartrec

Friends of the Rail Trail kicks off 10th anniversary season

By Angelica Ingram

The Haliburton railway has been gone for almost 40 years and 10 years ago a special group formed to honour its heritage.

This year will mark the 10th anniversary of the formation of Friends of the Rail Trail and a year of celebrations will begin with a night of two film screenings on Feb. 22.

Taking place at the Haliburton Highlands Museum at 7 p.m., the screening includes *The Railway to Haliburton*, which was written and narrated by Leopoldina Dobrzensky and filmed by Charles Taylor.

The film includes historical photographs of the railway, which spanned from Lindsay to Haliburton with stops along the way.

The second film, titled *Old Rails, Remembered Tales*, captures members of the community, some who have since passed away, sharing stories about the railway at a community supper held in February, 2007.

The supper, held at Camp Wanakita, was where Friends of the Rail Trail was born, said Pamela Marsales, one of the founding members of FoRT and current chairwoman.

"We sold our first two memberships that night. There was 85 people," she said. "We came together because we were interested in showcasing the history and nature aspects of the Rail Trail."

Marsales says members of the community had been invited to the dinner and asked to share their personal recollections of the railway. Those memories were then captured on the film.

The filming was done by what was then known as Highlands Media Arts (now Sticks and Stones Productions), which at the time was in its infancy, said Marsales.

"The idea to film it came about by accident, at the last minute," she said. "As people called me up to reserve their tickets they started telling me their stories over the phone. I thought wow, these are really fascinating stories and this is oral history that should be captured for posterity."

Some of the storytellers include Charlie Tyler, Marion Sedgewick, Guy Scott and Ev Stata.

"We hope as many of the original storytellers who can will be there," said Marsales.

The railway ran for a century, with a grand opening in November of 1878 to the final ride in 1978.

The upcoming event at the museum is being held during Ontario Heritage Week and Marsales is hoping it will inspire the public to learn more about Haliburton's past.

"The evening gives a really nice overview of how different and yet the same the railway days were," she said. "For instance, before there were telephones in Haliburton County there was the telegraph connection related to the railway. It was the first high-speed communication. It's just parallel to today's high-speed Internet connection."

One tale shared in the film includes capers where kids and teenagers would take the train into Haliburton to see a movie and hang out at a restaurant beforehand. However those who want to know the ending to the story will have to watch the film, said Marsales.

Marsales is also hoping the event draws more people who have memories of the railway, to connect with her.

"When we get a critical mass of new storytellers we will arrange a new event ... to record some more stories," she said. "That will be an anniversary year project."

The film night is only the beginning to a year of events marking the 10th anniversary of FoRT. In March, there will a membership month, inviting people to join FoRT.

The Sunday Rambles, which include walks along the Rail Trail, will return for the months of April and May.

Some summertime events will be open to members only, including an exclusive jazz evening.

Marsales is hoping to bring back some past events, such as the heritage farm tours, and is always open to new suggestions.

In the past 10 years FoRT has hosted some 90 events and has hundreds of members join the organization.

In its peak year there were 130 members, said Marsales.

The chairwoman has logs with the names of every participant from every Sunday Ramble during the past decade. Right down to the dogs who participated.

"The busiest Sunday Ramble had 55 in attendance," she said. "We have rambled in all kinds of weather."

The film event is pay what you can. Those interested in attending are encouraged to RSVP with Marsales at 705-457-4767. Refreshments will be provided.

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MOVIE NIGHTS
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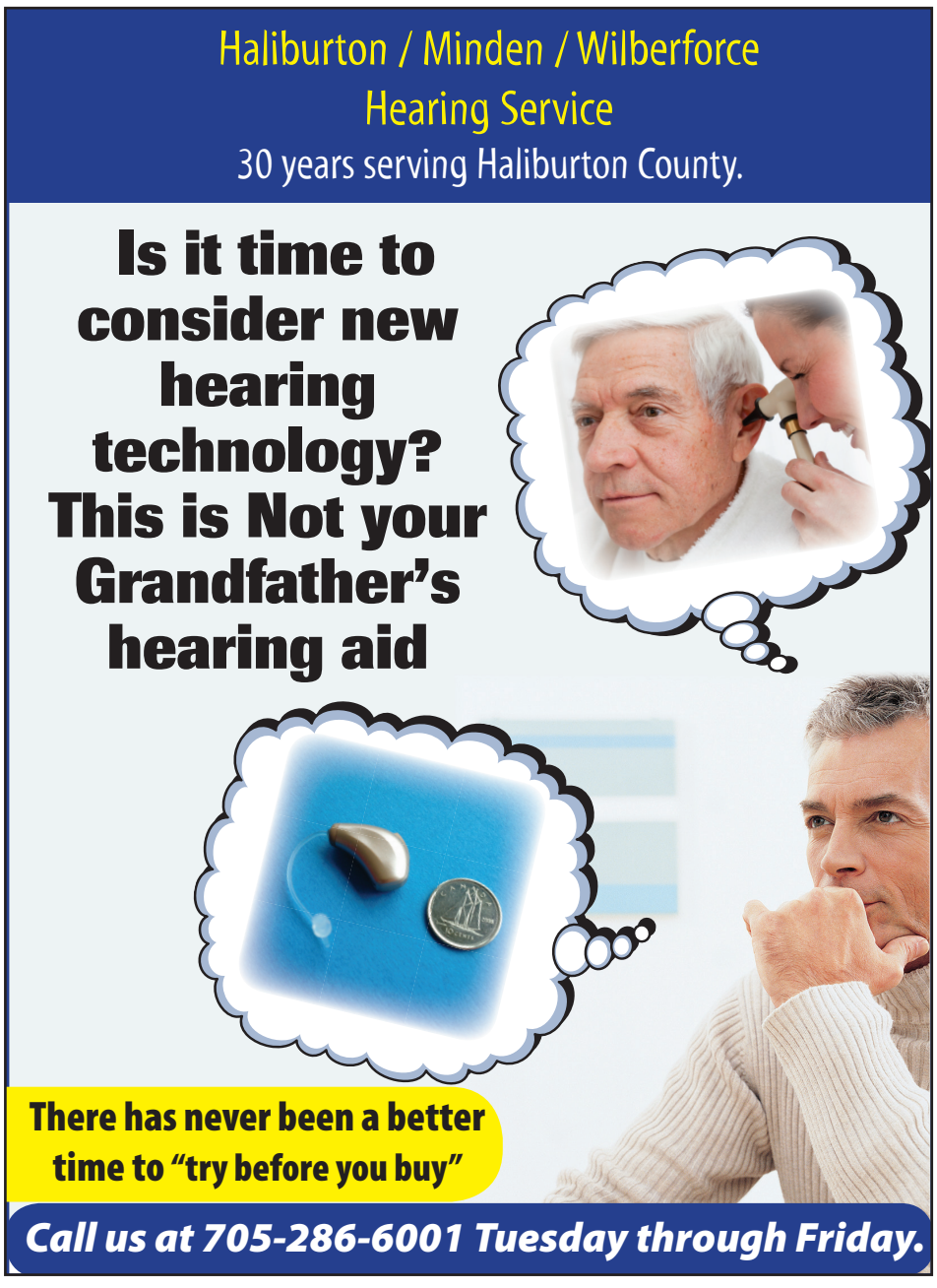
March 9 Lion April 8 Doc(k) Day
705-286-3696 www.haliburton-movies.com
Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion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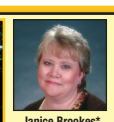

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Halls Lake $149,000

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Maple Lake $249,000

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- Let 24 years of experience help you

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Tom Ecclestone*
286-2138 x 26

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Prime Kennisis Lake Area

- 60 seats, 3 bdrm apt, turnkey set up
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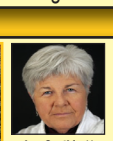

Lee Gauthier**
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- 1800 square feet with C.F. zoning
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In Town Commercial $299,000

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- Fully Finished, currently used as a church
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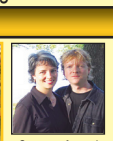

Susanne James*
& Andy Mosher**
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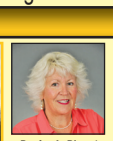
VACANT LOT

Gull River $99,900

- Almost 400 ft of frontage, 3 lake chain
- Just off year round road, 15 mins to Haliburton



Denise LeBlanc*
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Reynolds Rd Starting @ $43,000

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- Both back onto Blairhampton Golf Course

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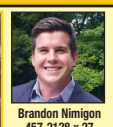

Brandon Nimigon
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Family Home $235,000

- 3 bdrms, 2 baths, Den & Children`s playroom
- On 23 acres and close to Haliburton Village
- Plus Propane Furnace, Woodstove & Fireplace

Karen Nimigon**
457-2128 x 29

NEW LISTING

Minden Home $258,000

- Newly renovated 4 bdrm, 2 bath
- Open concept with Chef's kitchen
- Central location close to Gull River

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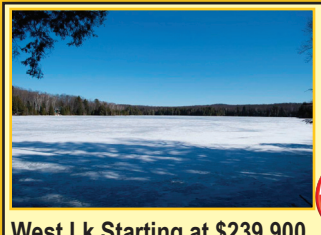

Greg Stamp*
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Little Bob Lake $134,900

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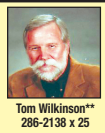

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How to make cut flowers last longer

What would Valentine's Day be without a beautiful bouquet of flowers? In addition to chocolate, cards and dining out, flowers – particularly roses – are among the most popular gifts.

Flowers of all shapes, sizes, colours, and aromas can make popular gifts this February. Prolonging the life of beautiful blooms is a priority for those who want their Valentine's Day arrangements to endure for as long as possible. Florists and other experts differ with regard to the best methods of preserving flowers. Here are some ideas to try.

Trim stems before immersing in water

The natural emollients and sap in the stems of flowers may cause a film to form over the bottom of the stem after it is initially cut. This can reduce the flower's uptake of water. To alleviate this, cut the stems once the flowers are home. A 45-degree angle allows for the absorption of the most water. You can recut them at each water change as well.

Clean vases of bacteria

Be sure that vases or other vessels you use to hold flowers are completely clean. Bacteria can cause the flowers to decompose prematurely. Use a diluted bleach-and-water solution to clean vases thoroughly between uses.

Watch flower placement

Sunlight and heat may dry out the blooms. Prolong the life of flowers by placing them in the darkest, coolest area of the home.

Treat the water

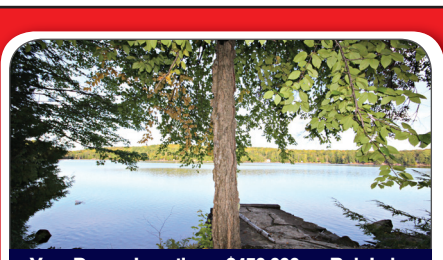
To preserve flowers, do your best to reduce bacteria, provide a food source for the flowers and manage the pH so that the uptake of water will continue to be strong. Sugar can be an adequate food source.

Gardenista, a floral arrangement and gardening resource, tested a variety of methods for preserving flowers and found much of the same results across the board. These included vinegar and sugar, conventional flower food, bleach, aspirin, and a penny. The bleach, aspirin, copper penny, and vinegar work as antibacterial agents. The sugar and the plant food help nourish the blooms. In the trials, most of the blooms remained strong for three to four days.

Purchase immature blooms

Although many desire an arrangement of all opened flowers, bouquets that have some closed buds or those that are just beginning to peek out will likely last longer than bouquets that have already bloomed. The flowers will continue to open and wilting flowers can be removed to make room for the others.

Keeping Valentine's Day flowers looking fresh and vibrant takes a few steps. By being diligent, that floral arrangement can last for several days.



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Upcoming Events

Valentine's Dinner & Dance and Silent Auction
Coming Together in Love & Support For Parker Simpson
When: Sat. Feb. 11 at 6 pm
Where: Royal Canadian Legion, Haliburton
Tickets $25.00/person
Tickets available from Brianne Pockett, Marita Bagshaw, Brandi Hewson, Courtney Wilson, and Britney Rock. All event details can be found on Facebook.

Polar Bear Challenge, Sponsored by the Haliburton & District Lions Club
When: Sat. February 18, 2017 Haliburton Frost Festival
Where: Head Lake Park, Polar Dip Venue
Registration: 10:00 - 12:00, Event Starts: 1:00 pm
Pledge forms available at : Cranberry Cottage, Haliburton Foodland, Todds Independent Grocers and West guilford Shopping Centre or on the website: www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/haliburton/index.php
All proceeds to SickKids Music Therapy Program or Haliburton Hospital Health Services Foundation

Come One, Come All to the Annual Community Chili-fest
When: February 20, 2017 (Family Day)
Sponsored By the Bancroft Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Cardiff Community Centre
4:00 pm – Chili Contest – Judging by Local Dignitaries (categories include mild and hot)
4:30 pm – Chili Tasting – bread and drinks provided
Bring your family, your appetite, and your best chili to be judged and to share with others.
For more information or contest pre-registration please call or email
President Keith Plumb 613-339-3436/plumbkeith@yahoo.ca
FREE

HALIBURTON: Sexual Health Clinic,
When: Wednesday, February 22, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm.
The clinic provides clients with confidential access to cervical screening, low-cost birth control, pregnancy testing and sexual health teaching. Testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections are also provided. For more information, locations or to make an appointment, call the Health Unit at 1-866-888-4577, ext. 2205.

Razzamataz Kids Shows
When: Sunday February 26, 2017, 2:00pm
Where: Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion
Saraka by Ballet Creole, ON

Reptile Road Show
When: Saturday, Mar. 18, 10 am start time until noon (arrive before 10 please for registration)
This is of our most popular events of the year! The knowledgeable folks from Scales Nature Park will bring their highly acclaimed outreach program to Haliburton once again, with a selection of interesting snakes and turtles for us to see, touch, and learn about.
Tickets must be purchased before the event either online at www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca or in person at our office at 739 Mountain St. Haliburton.
Cost: General Admission, $15.00 per adult, $10.00 Per child, Family Pass (up to 2 adults and 2 children) $30.00
Location: Haliburton Outdoors Association Fish Hatchery, 6712 Gelert Rd. Haliburton

Haliburton Blood Donor Clinic
When: Monday, March 27th
1:30-6:30pm
Where: Haliburton Legion, 719 Mountain St.
To book your appointment please visit www.blood.ca

Sounds of the Night: Owl Prowl!
When: Saturday, Apr. 8, 8:00 pm – 10:00 pm
Who goes "hoo" in the night? Join Haliburton naturalist Pauline Plooard and listen in the dark for owls calling. Dress warmly, including your footwear, and bring a headlamp or flashlight. Our leader will be Pauline Plooard. Admission by donation.
Location: Meet at Zion United Church, 1021 East Rd. Carnarvon at 8:00 pm where carpools will be arranged and directions provided.
Cost: Admission by donation

Razzamataz Kids Shows
When: Sunday April 9, 2017, 2:00pm
Where: Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion
Terzetto by L'Aubergine, QC

Wild Leeks, Edibles & Spring Wildflowers
When: Saturday, May 6, 10:00 am- 12:00 noon
Where: Abbey gardens, 1012 Garden Gate Dr. Haliburton (off Hwy 118 West of Haliburton)
Leader: Carolyn Langdon, Windfall Food Forest, forager and food forester
Cost: $5.00 per person, includes soup (payment may be made online or in person on the day of the event

Recurring Events

Upcoming WORKSHOPS from Deep Roots Adventure:
Jan 28 - Winter Survival
Feb 18 - Winter Camping
Mar 18 - Winter Survival
See www.DeepRootsAdventure.com/uncomingevents/ for more details.

The VON SMART exercise program for balance, strength and flexibility.
When: Minden , Wednesday at 11 am
Where: Hyland Crest auditorium,
When: Haliburton, Thursday at 1 pm
Where: EchoHills.
Please contact Judy Webb at 705-286-5098 or Carol Browne at 705-457-4551 for more information.

Morning Glories
When: Tuesday and Friday 8:30am
Where: Upstairs in the Haliburton Arena
Contact: Jane Jaycock 705-754-9996 or jjaycock@hotmail.com
Exercises for cardio, strength training, balance and flexibility

Afterschool program at Archie Stouffer School
Haven is program for students in grades 5 to 8
A Youth Unlimited and Monarch Bible Camp Partnership
Thursdays - 3:30 to 5:30 in the Music Room
Games, Snacks, Bible learning, Crafts and monthly outreach at Highland Crest
Contact: teresa@youthunlimitedkaw.com or 705-887-3625
Registration forms available in school office

Youth Program
Minden has a Youth Program!! Students in grades 8 and up are invited to supper and program every Thursday night from 5:45 to 8:00 pm.
EVERYONE WELCOME! Explore faith, learn new skills, enjoy hanging out with other youth. Program run by Monarch Bible Camp and Youth Unlimited.
Where: Minden Bible Church-Bobcaygeon Road
Information: teresa@youthunlimitedkaw.com or 705-887-3625

Cancer Support Group,
Open to anyone who has been diagnosed with or survived cancer. We meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month in the Ruth Parkes Room at the Haliburton Hospital from 1 pm to 3 pm. Please contact Lynn Higgs Thompson 705-457-2941 for more information.

Al-anon Minden
When; Monday evenings at 8 p.m.
Where: Hyland Crest (north entrance, follow signs inside building), 6 MacPherson, Minden
Details: For relatives and friends of problem drinkers. For more information call 1-888-425-2666

Kitchen Party Music Jams
When: Every Saturday From 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm (continuous event)
Where: Dominion Hotel Pub, 113 Main Street, Minden, ON
Details: Musicians are welcome to come out to play and Fans are welcome to come out and enjoy the music at the free Jam Sessions every Saturday afternoon - 1st Saturday Folk/Celtic Music, 2nd & 5th Saturdays Mixed Acoustic Music, 3rd Saturday Country Music & 4th Saturday Bluegrass Music.
Contact: Gerry Mitchell at (705)799-5008 or by email at kitchenpartymusicjams@hotmail.com

Toastmaster Minden
When: 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. 12 noon to 1:00 pm (winter meetings times)
Where: OPP conference room, 12598 Hwy. 35 (across from Tim Hortons)
The fee has been reduced
Anyone, who is 18 to 80 years of age can attend.
First three meetings are FREE

Haliburton Highlands Quilt Guild
When: Second Wednesday of every month, at 1-4 pm
Where: Stanhope Community Centre, 1095 North Shore Rd., Algonquin Highlands
Details: Meeting often preceded by working on a project at 10 am.
Contact: Pat Campbell at (705) 457-1211 or patcampbell@live.ca

Haliburton Highlands Weaving & Spinning Guild Open Studios:
Time: Every Tues. 1-4p.m.
Place: Zion United Church, Carnarvon
No experience needed.
Contact: Pat @ 705-286-7782 or andreacoysh@gmail.com

Dorset Craft Connections Group
When: Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.
$1 per person

Haliburton Region Shout Sister! Choir
When: Practices are held Thursday nights from 7-9 pm
Where: Haliburton United Church, Fellowship Room, 10 George St., Haliburton.
Details: Directed by Laurel McCauley, Welcoming new members. We do not audition and learn our music by ear. All levels of singers are welcome. We sing a fun variety of music from pop and folk to Motown.

Legion Events

Branch 624, Wilberforce
PRO – Jan SIMON February 10th – February 16th

Friday	Pool 1:30pm Community Care 55+ Lunch 12:00pm. Please call Denice Butler to reserve 705-448-8865 Wing Night 6:30-9:00pm Jam Session 7:30pm
Saturday	Meat Draw 2pm Early Bird 3pm Sharp Valentines Dance 9pm to close – DJ Dale Allison – spot prizes
Sunday	L.A. Breakfast 9am to 12pm
Monday	Bid Euchre 7:00pm come out and learn – beginners welcome
Wednesday	Fun Darts 7:30pm

Upcoming Events
It's Official – **Wing nights** will be the 2nd and 4th Friday's each month plus 5th night when applicable
Come out and enjoy delicious wings and great music with friends 6:30-9:00pm
Saturday, February 25th – Ken McFarlane Lake Trout Ice Fishing Derby – weigh in 3-6 – Participants must be present to collect prizes. $15/person one fish entry

Branch 129, Haliburton
Dave Allen, PRO 705-457-2571

Mondays:	Bridge every Monday at 1pm
Tuesdays:	Tuesday Night Dart League starting at 7pm
Wednesdays:	Bid Euchre 1 pm start Bingo Doors open at 6 pm, Bingo starts at 7 pm - $500 Jackpot, $1000 Jackpot - last Wednesday of the month
Thursdays:	General Meeting Second Thursday of the month starting at 7:30 pm. All members urged to attend Ladies Auxiliary Last Thursday of the month at 1 pm
Fridays:	Meat Draw Five Draws, Five Prizes each draw, First draw at 4:30 pm, Last draw at 6:30 pm, Tickets are $2 per draw… Chester Howse, MC
Darts	Friday fun darts - 4:30pm onwards
Saturdays:	50/50 Draw 4 pm draw, Tickets are $1 each from noon onwards
Sundays:	Breakfast Second and fourth Sunday of the month – 9:30 am – 1 pm. $6 per person. Occasional volunteers are needed.

Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, for more information call the Legion today at **(705) 457- 2571**, email **rcl129@bellnet.ca** or visit **haliburtonlegion.com** Come on out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129... everyone is welcome!

Branch 636, Minden 705-286-4541
Ladies Darts, Wednesday, 1-4 p.m.
Bid Euchre, Tuesday, 1 p.m.
Euchre, Thursday, 7 p.m.
Fish/Wings & Chips, Friday, 12-2 p.m. and 5-7 p.m.
Mixed darts, Friday 7:30 p.m.
Big euchre, first Sunday of the month (except holidays), noon, $12
Sports Fan Day, Sunday, 12-4 p.m.
Lunch menu, Monday – Friday, 12-2 p.m.
Liver lover's special, Tuesday 12-2 p.m. (full menu also)
Meat Draw, Wednesday lunch time.
Upcoming Events:
Please listen to local radio regarding our special Saturday events.

Branch 441 Kinmount
PRO Raquel Linton 705-488-3191

Mondays:	Seniors cards, pot luck lunch 1230 followed by Bid Euchre Family Fun Bingo 630pm Children & Adult fun and All welcome!
Wednesday:	Summer Drop In Darts
Fridays:	Bingo 6:45 all welcome $300 Must Go Jackpot
Saturdays:	5pm Meat Draw

Get The Word Out

Let people know about your event. Send it in to our FREE community events listing in the Haliburton Echo, Minden Times and County Life. Email the basics to Pat Lewis: classifieds@haliburtonpress.com or call us at 705-457-1037.

Snow Shuffle

West Guilford Community Centre

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2017

First prize 50/50 & many more prizes

50/50 FOR ATV & Snowmobile Ride & ADDITIONAL PRIZES

Ride, Lunch, Dinner & Dance $40
Tickets are limited

Ride/Lunch $30
Unlimited tickets
Also available on day of event

Dinner/Dance $30
Tickets are limited

STARTING TIME: 9:30am-12:00pm at the Community Centre

Last Checkpoint Community Centre 5:00pm

Dinner 6:00pm

Dance by DJ Scott Stanton

Plus additional prizes to be given 8:30pm

TICKET SALES FOR RIDE, DINNER & DANCE

Limited quantity available at: West Guilford Shopping Centre, West Guilford Auto Centre & Touch of Class Day Spa and Hair Salon in Haliburton

Ride ONLY tickets will be sold the day of the event. 9:30am – 12pm at the Community Center. All cards must be drawn by 5pm. No exceptions.

West Guilford Community Center ATV and Snowmobile Ride Dinner & Dance

Kids learn to ski

Milo Shantz double-poles on a track in front of other young cross-country skiers during instruction for the Jackrabbit Program (six to nine years) on Saturday, Jan. 14 at Glebe Park in Haliburton. This instructional offering, which is a Cross Country Canada's Skill Development Program for children aged from four to 12, is part of The Haliburton Highlands Nordic Trail and Ski Club Association's Haliburton Ski Club Youth Programs that run from January until February.
The other programs offered are the Bunny Rabbit Program, the FUNdamentals and Learning to Train./ DARREN LUM Staff

County Classifieds

classifieds@haliburtonpress.com Deadline Friday at 4 pm.

100 LESSONS/CLASSES

Guitar Lessons *with Chad Ingram* Beginner to intermediate level. Learn to play your favourite songs. $45/hour. **Call 705-286-1323**

Book a Saturday of Private Painting Classes for you and your FriendsWith Carol Finn ***What is required:*** 6 friends participating Cost-$150. Organizer-$125. ***When:*** Any Saturday January to end of Apr. ***What you get:*** Instruction designed for your group (luncheon/beverage provided) Friday night preparation ***Where: FINN ARTISTS CENTER*** 15 Newcastle St. Minden Contact: 705-457-2404 or ***finn @halhinet.on.ca***

BIG NEWS

200 FOR SALE

Solar Batteries. Crown Battery L-16 430 AH. Commercial Deep cycle. 1-800-954-9998

BE Generator 6500ER BRAND NEW 13hp Electric Start Wheel Kit Fold Down Handles 2 - 30 amp plugs and 4 regular plugs. 3 year full warranty. Asking $875 Call 1-800-954-9998 or 705-741-6097

Another SNOW DAY? Dig yourself out & **SHOP THRIFT Warehouse** Haliburton & Bancroft for furniture, electronics, skis & skates and so much more! ***100s of new items daily!*** Tues-Sat. 10am-5pm, 128 Mallard Rd., Haliburton & 29556 Highway 28 Bancroft, beside Kawartha Dairy

400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Shop N' Save Convenience Looking for part time employees evenings and weekends. Drop or mail in your resume to Shop N Save P.O Box 209 Kinmount ON K0M 2A0.

220 FIREWOOD FOR SALE

Cut and Split Firewood for indoor and outdoor wood stoves. Delivered to Minden and surrounding areas. Get ahead of next winter! Slabs for campfire available too. We also cut lumber. Please contact Maryssa at 705-854-0280.

400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Skilled, experienced carpenters needed call 705 457-1224

Construction Estimator/Project Manager. Min. 2-3 yrs experience in Civil Construction Estimating. Experience surveying and septic design preferred. Email resume to ***reception@hawkriver.ca***

CLEANING PERSON NEEDED Cleaning Woman/Greeter sought for Saturdays in the summer. Private cottage. We are looking for a mature/ experienced and reliable person. Pay is excellent. Please respond with references to ***sandyshores@primus.ca***

360 COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT

SELF CONTAINED STORAGE UNITS for rent discounts available located on Industrial Park Road in Haliburton. Call 705 457-1224.

Very High Visibility Hwy 35 and Main Street, Minden. 3,000 to 7,000 sq. ft. Prime Professional/ Commercial space now available. **Call 705-286-2994**

400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Mill Pond Restaurant has two kitchen positions available starting ASAP. One part time kitchen helper and one line cook position. Starting part time over the winter and will be full time year round in April. Call 705-489-3353 or email ***millpondbrad@gmail.com.***

Looking for a Mature/ Presentable Sales/Marketing Asst. Must be friendly and have great communication/ customer service skills. Be able to work independently but within a team environment. Computer skills a must and willing to learn company programs. Must have a great attitude with a commitment to growth. Valid drivers licence and own vehicle necessary. This is a temporary part-time position approx. 25-30 hrs to start leading into full-time time hours. Must be available to work Saturdays if required. Please submit resume to ***ian@chaulkwoodworking.com***

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Multi-talented Canadian entertainer coming to the Pinestone

Popular Canadian entertainer Amberley Beatty is well known across Canada, the US and Mexico, for her tribute shows *The legendary Patsy Cline*, *Honky Tonk Gal* (Loretta Lynn), *When Girls Rule The Radio* (the female pop stars from the '50s to now) and *Country Greats*, featuring the top country music of all time. She is also an emerging recording artist, currently working on her fifth album. Her new album, for Calgary-based Trend Records, will feature all original songs, a first for the artist. Her 2015 cover of Hank Cochran's classic *She's Got You*, a song made famous by the late Patsy Cline, has been popular with country and easy listening radio programmers. And her recent concert tours from Saskatchewan to Cape Breton Island were almost all sellouts.

From the music of the '50s to the 21st century, the intrepid Ms. Beatty's talent, versatility, enthusiasm and pure showmanship have made her one of Canada's most in-demand entertainers. But only after years of paying her dues in dance halls, hockey rinks and theatres across the continent. Her busy schedule keeps her away from her young family more than she likes, but she looks upon it as the price of success. On Friday, March 3, she comes to Haliburton, for a concert and dance at Pinestone Resort. The show will be one of a series in support of her new single *Right Back To You*. Though not scheduled for release until May, in an exclusive arrangement with Trend Records, Canoe FM will begin airing an advance copy in mid February. Complete details on Amberley Beatty's upcoming appearance will be available in County Life and on Canoe FM.

Submitted by Merv Buchanan

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Hodgson re-elected in huge sweep

PC incumbent wins every poll in Haliburton-Victoria

by PETER DOWNS
Staff Reporter

Progressive Conservative incumbent MPP Chris Hodgson cruised to a massive victory in Haliburton-Victoria Thursday night, leaving his nearest opponent close to 19,000 votes behind in his wake.

The Haliburton native captured almost 70 per cent of the ballots cast in the riding, racking up 25,096 votes to Liberal candidate Sharon McCrae's 6,207.

NDP candidate Cathy Vainio from Emily Township was a close third with 4,146 votes.

Even Hodgson, who first gained his seat by a narrow margin over McCrae in a March 1994 by-election, seemed amazed by his own popularity as the Tory tide washed over the province.

"It's really humbling that people want me to be their representative," he said, watching the numbers go up on the wall at the Olympia Restaurant in Lindsay on Thursday night. "You always feel confident, but you're never quite sure how it's going to turn out though. It's great."

Not only did he win at every polling station in his home county of Haliburton, but also at every poll in Victoria County, including McCrae's home territory of Ops.

In Haliburton County, Hodgson took 3,257 of 4,533 votes for a huge 72 per cent of the ballots cast.

McCrae trailed far behind with only 605 votes or about 14 per cent.

Vainio, who did not gain a great deal of public favour after coming up short on her knowledge of local issues at a recent all-candidates meeting, placed just behind McCrae with 548 votes.

Hodgson said the huge support he has received from the electorate gives him a clear message that people are demanding change.

"I've dealt with thousands of constituency complaints in the last year and a couple months and I knew the public was fed up with the direction the province was going and they wanted real change," he says. "Our platform is the only one to address that because we listened in opposition to what the people were saying."

"I knew the public was fed up with the direction the province was going and they wanted new change," says riding's returning MPP

Right from the beginning of the night the mood at the packed restaurant was boisterous and loud as it became obvious the electorate was giving Hodgson an overwhelming vote of confidence.

As each new tally was announced and written on the board, the crowd of more than 200 broke into cheers.

"Have we lost one yet?" announcer Lorne Chester repeatedly asked to a raucous response of "No" from the crowd.

The largest burst of applause, whistles and yells came when the advanced polls were announced in Hodgson's home town of Haliburton.

Hodgson garnered a whopping 410 votes out of 505 ballots cast, nearly eight times the 54 votes McRae received.

He also won by a large margin in Minden where he captured 243 of the 339 votes, while only 50 voters gave their support to

See THURSDAY page 4

PUPPY LOVE: Doozer the Bassett Hound gives his owner, 12-year-old Doug Fielding, a friendly greeting at Saturday's lob ball tournament in West Guilford. Luckily, Doozer didn't give the same wet welcome to the players of the six teams who raised $1,300 for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. (See page 15.).

Friends of Bark Lake launch takeover bid to save camp

by PETER DOWNS
Staff Reporter

The Friends of Bark Lake want to become more than just friends with the soon-to-be closed leadership training centre.

They want to own it.

The alumni association has submitted a formal proposal to the provincial government's real estate arm to acquire the Irondale facility, which has been put up for sale and will be shut down on August 31.

"Our proposal has just gone into the Ontario Realty Corporation and we're hoping to hear from them within the next 10 days," the association's president said Tuesday.

John McCutcheon says the group wants to maintain the existing leadership training programs offered at the facility, which are targeted primarily at youths, but aim them at a broader audience to attract people from across the country.

The association is also proposing to add a corporate training centre to offer leadership programs for those in the world of business.

"We have made a commitment to keep as many

See FRIENDS page 7

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GOODERHAM AREA COUNTRY HOME

2 BR bungalow with full walkout basement. 2-4 pc baths, lots of kitchen cupboards, oil furnace plus outdoor wood furnace. Large insulated garage/ workshop plus small barn.

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WEST LAKE ACREAGE

Very private waterfront acreage with over 800' frtg in its natural state for perfectly private getaway. Pretty island view. Great for hunting, exploring, ATVing & more.

$195,000

HALLS LAKE ACCESS

Cute starter cottage with access to beautiful lake steps away.
3BR, 4pc bath, drilled well, septic. Level lot, large deck for kids to play.

$134,500

LOT NEAR MINDEN

Vacant lot close to Minden, Hwy. 35 corridor & Horseshoe Lk. Nicely treed in birch & pine, level, choice of sites for home or getaway. Yr rnd rd, lakes, golf, white water rafting all nearby.

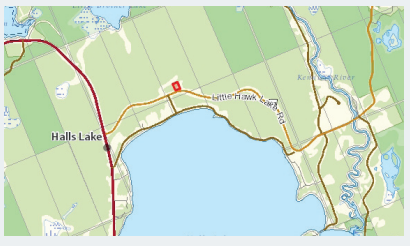
$39,900

HUNTER CREEK ROAD

6.3 ac of forest close to Minden and Gull Lake. Municipal maintained road off of HWY 35, level property, good building sites. 159` feet of frontage.

$29,900

LOT NEAR HALLS LAKE



1.67 ac lot. Level, fully treed. Yr rnd rd, roughed in driveway. Walk to the public access on Halls Lake, & not far from a Park. Tube down the river for summer fun--the entry point is nearby.

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